



Dacarbazine (DTIC®)

At the Clinical Center referred to as DTIC.

How Given: Intravenously (by vein)

Drug Action: DTIC® stops the growth of cancer cells by binding together or breaking apart the building blocks that form DNA. DNA is the genetic material in cells used to make new cells.

Side Effects:

1. A burning sensation can occur along the vein during treatment.
2. Severe nausea and vomiting can occur 1 hour after treatment and last up to several days. The severity can decrease with each treatment.
3. Bone marrow effects can include a temporary decrease in white blood cells and platelets. These begin 2 weeks after treatment and last up to 4 weeks.
4. Flu-like symptoms such as fever, fatigue, and muscle aches can occur during and after treatment.
5. Temporary hair thinning or hair loss can occur.

Special Instructions

1. Tell your nurse immediately if the drug stings or burns during treatment. If the drug leaks out of the vein it can damage tissue. Prompt treatment is essential in order to minimize damage.

2. Take anti-nausea medication on a schedule as directed even if you are not having nausea.
3. Do not take aspirin or aspirin-containing products unless prescribed by your NIH doctor.



This information is prepared specifically for patients participating in clinical research at the Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center at the National Institutes of Health and is not necessarily applicable to individuals who are patients elsewhere. If you have questions about the information presented here, talk to a member of your healthcare team.

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